

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC CY

SUBJ: FY 75 IV NOMINEE: NICOS KOSHIS

REF: NICOSIA 1302

SUMMARY: TO ASSIST IN PROGRAMMING KOSHIS POST HERewith
PROVIDES ADDITIONAL BIODATA, PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS AND
POST'S COMMENTS:

1. KOSHIS WAS BORN IN DHALI VILLAGE, NICOSIA, OCTOBER 22, 1933.
CYPRIOT CITIZEN. ATTENDED HIGH SCHOOL IN CYPRUS, BUT CYPRIOT
STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE 1955-60 INTERRUPTED ACADEMIC TRAINING.
GRANTEE WAS LEADER OF EOKA MOVEMENT IN NICOSIA AREA DURING
STRUGGLE. ARRESTED IN 1956 BY BRITISH AND INTERNED IN DETENTION
CAMP FOR TWO YEARS, HE ESCAPED IN 1958 AND CONTINUED UNDERGROUND
ACTIVITIES UNTIL END OF LIBERATION STRUGGLE. HAS SERVED CONTIN-
UOUSLY AS MEMBER OF CYPRIOT PARLIAMENT FROM 1960 UNTIL APPOINTED
MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND DEFENSE IN CLERIDES' GOVERNMENT FROM
AUGUST 1974 TO JANUARY 1975. IN 1963 STARTED PUBLICATION OF
DAILY NEWSPAPER "AGON" WHICH LATER BECAME CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH
CLERIDES' PARTY. FROM DECEMBER 1963, WHEN INTERCOMMUNAL STRIFE
FIRST BEGAN ON CYPRUS, UNTIL JUNE 1964 KOSHIS SERVED AS STAFF
OFFICER WITH VOLUNTEER GREEK CYPRIOT NATIONAL GUARD, PREDECESSOR
ORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL GUARD OF CYPRUS. VISA ELIGIBLE.

2. KOSHIS' MAIN INTERESTS ARE POLITICS, NEWSPAPER OPERATIONS AND
FARMING. HE WOULD LIKE EXPOSURE TO WORKINGS OF POLITICAL PARTIES
IN DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM AND TO TECHNIQUES OF POLITICAL ORGANIZATION
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FROM NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS TO WARD LEVEL. WANTS TO VISIT URBAN

AND RURAL AREAS TO OBSERVE POLITICS IN ACTION AND SEE POLITICAL METHODS USED. REQUESTS VISIT TO CONGRESS, WITH CHANCE TO TALK TO CONGRESSMEN AND LEARN HOW THEY DEAL WITH PROBLEMS OF THEIR CONSTITUENTS. VISITS TO STATE LEGISLATURES WOULD ALSO BE WELCOME. AS FORMER MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND DEFENSE HAS AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN VISITING U.S. ARMY INSTALLATIONS AND PERHAPS AN ARMY TRAINING CENTER, NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY, F.B.I. NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.

3. AS NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER KOSHIS WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE DAILY NEWSPAPER OPERATIONS. VISITS TO NEWSPAPERS AND MEETINGS WITH JOURNALISTS ARE DESIRABLE BUT POST RECOMMENDS HE AVOID LARGE CIRCULATION U.S. DAILIES WHICH BEAR LITTLE RESEMBLANCE TO SMALL 6-8 PAGE "AGON" OF WHICH KOSHIS IS PUBLISHER. GRANTEE HOPES TO OBSERVE AND DISCUSS ALL ASPECTS NEWSPAPER OPERATION FROM REPORTING AND EDITING TO PRINTING AND CIRCULATION.

4. KOSHIS' MAJOR AVOCATION IS FARMING. OWNING LARGE FARM HIMSELF MAINLY CONSISTING OF FIG TREES, CITRUS AND SHEEP, HE HAS HAD A PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY CONSISTING LARGELY OF FARMERS FOR PAST 15 YEARS. IS EAGER TO VISIT SOUTHWEST U.S. TO OBSERVE FARMING AND IRRIGATION TECHNIQUES WHICH MIGHT BE APPLICABLE IN GEOGRAPHIC, CLIMATIC CONDITIONS OF CYPRUS WITH EMPHASIS ON FIGS AND SHEEP. WOULD LIKE TO VISIT TEXAS RANCH, CALIFORNIA FARM. HIS ITINERARY SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE NIAGARA FALLS, GRAND CANYON AND FLORIDA EVERGLADES.

5. KOSHIS IS SOMETHING OF "STRONG, SILENT TYPE" WHOSE INTELLECTUAL INTERESTS ARE SEVERELY LIMITED. HAS EXPRESSED NO INTEREST WHATSOEVER IN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND SUCH EVENTS AS THEATER, BALLET OR CONCERTS WOULD BE UNPALATABLE BORE FOR HIM. HE IS HANDSOME, CLEAN LIVING YOUNG MAN, IMMENSELY POPULAR AMONG VILLAGERS BUT WILL PROBABLY BE RATHER ILL AT EASE IN MORE SOPHISTICATED SURROUNDINGS. HE WILL NOT BE DEMANDING IN HIS REQUESTS BUT THOSE HOSTING HIM WILL SOMETIMES FIND HIM DIFFICULT TO STIMULATE. VISITS TO OPEN COUNTRY, NATIONAL PARKS, ZOOS, DISNEYLANDS, CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD, CAPE KENNEDY, SOME EXPOSURE TO "WILD WEST" WILL BE MOST PARTICULARLY APPEALING.

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